

was approved in February. A July 4 ceremony is planned at the gravesite near the historic Crown Point Military Road in Plymouth.

[From the Burlington Free Press, Mar. 1, 1995]

VERMONT UNKNOWN SOLDIER MAY SERVE AGAIN—LEGISLATURE CONSIDERS DESIGNATION FOR GRAVE

(By Molly Walsh)

PLYMOUTH.—A nameless Revolutionary War soldier who was buried in a remote, wooded grave roughly 220 years ago may finally find an identity.

The soldier, believed to have died a few hundred yards from Vermont's historic Crown Point Military Road as he returned home from battle, will be designated Vermont's official unknown soldier if a resolution introduced Tuesday in the Legislature is approved.

The designation would honor Vermont soldiers of all wars who never returned home and whose ultimate fate is unknown, said Rep. John Murphy, D-Ludlow, who expects the resolution to be discussed in the House today. It would also give the forgotten soldier, who is buried atop a secluded knoll overlooking the stream where he may have taken his last drink, a place in history, even if he lacks a name.

"History reflects those people that have given their utmost support and their lives in some cases, and I think the young people of the country should understand history on the national level and the state level," Murphy said.

The grave is located off Vermont 103, about one-half mile northeast of Lake Ninevah and just north of the Mount Holly-Plymouth line. The land where it sits is owned by The Wilderness Corporation, a Vermont conservation group that owns 3,000 acres in the area, which it opens to hiking, skiing and other recreational uses.

The grave itself is one-third of a mile from a branch of the historic Crown Point Military Road, today a patchwork of paths, town roads and overgrown woods that is frequently hiked by history buffs.

But during the French and Indian Wars, as well as the Revolutionary War, the 77-mile road was traveled by soldiers heading to strategic positions at Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point, N.Y.

The road, built from 1759 to 1760, stretches from the Connecticut River on the east side of the state to Lake Champlain on the west. There are several graves of Revolutionary War soldiers along and around the road and its many branches.

The grave that was chosen for the designation was selected for its peaceful setting and because the oral history surrounding the soldier's death is compelling.

That history, passed down for generations, holds that the soldier was returning home from battle and stopped to drink at a stream with a comrade. He reportedly died on the spot and was buried on the knoll overlooking the stream.

A local landowner told the story to the Rev. William Ballou of Chester. Ballou, who was also a Boy Scout master, investigated the site and confirmed the grave's location on Oct. 19, 1935. A month later the Chester Boy Scouts cleared brush from the site and placed a wooden marker on the old road that goes by the grave. That year the Daughters of the American Revolution also placed a marker and a flag at the head of the grave. Whether the oral history is true, no one can be sure. But that does not matter to the Rev. Charles Purinton Jr., chaplain and family services coordinator for the Vermont National Guard, who launched the designation effort.

"Nobody really does know what happened," Purinton said. But he believes one thing is certain about the soldier: "He was doing his duty like Vermonters ever since."

If the House and Senate approve the resolution, a July 4th ceremony is planned at the knoll where the soldier is buried and a simple plaque will be erected. It would be the first recognition of this kind in Vermont.

Maj. Gen. Donald Edwards, the state adjutant general, said that if the designation is made, no great influx of visitors to the site is anticipated. Other than the plaque, he does not expect any changes.

"We think it's classic Vermont, why change it?" he said. "We are not going to build any great big monuments or anything." However, the site's remote beauty could be its downfall. The path from the dirt road to the grave is uphill, rocky and overgrown. It would be difficult for handicapped people to navigate.

That's a major drawback, said John Bergeron, vice president of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter One in Rutland. "A lot of veterans are getting up there in age," he said. "Certainly access to the place will be a problem."

But the solitude hanging in the air over the grave covered by field stones and snow inspires contemplation of what put him there. And that makes the site special, said Scott McGee, president of the Wilderness Corporation.

"It is touching to go there and to contemplate what may have occurred and to think about who may lie there and what he may have done," McGee said. "There is a sense of history that starts to surround you when you go to the site."

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 30, 1995

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I would like the RECORD to show that I was not present on Tuesday, June 27, due to the birth of my son, Andrew David. I would like to state for the record that had I been present, I would have voted as follows: On rollcall vote No. 420—"Yes"; rollcall vote No. 421—"No"; rollcall vote No. 422—"No"; rollcall vote No. 423—"Yes"; rollcall vote No. 424—"No"; rollcall vote No. 425—"Yes"; rollcall vote No. 426—"No"; rollcall vote No. 427—"Yes";

HAWAII PUBLIC RADIO

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 30, 1995

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, during this Congress we are going to have the opportunity to debate the vital role of public broadcasting in the educational and cultural development of our Nation.

As we discuss this issue I want to share with my colleagues an article that was given to me earlier this year regarding the merits of national public radio. Specifically, the author extols the virtues of Hawaii Public Radio. Public radio is unique and adapts to the cultural, geographical and regional differences in the United States. For instance, while Hawaii Public

Radio broadcasts "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered" from national public radio they also read the news in Hawaiian and provide the daily news from the Pacific. This is an addition to the classical, jazz, blues, and sundry other programs that anyone can tune into and enjoy. No other radio station provides such a variety of programs to its listeners.

Mr. Speaker, diversity strengthens and brightens the fabric of our society. There is a place for Hawaii Public Radio in our society and we must continue to support it. I commend this article to my colleagues and ask that it be printed in the RECORD at this point.

[From the Maui News, Dec. 15, 1994]

MAKING THE MAUI SCENE

(By Rick Chatenever)

Amazing—the Newt Age isn't even upon us yet, but the media is already back as the target of choice. From both sides. First White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta likened incoming Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich to "an out-of-control radio talk-show host." Trying to become the Gingrich that stole Christmas, Newt wasted no time suggesting that the government should pull the plug on public broadcasting.

How easy it is to forget public broadcasting's role in creating a climate that made someone like Newt possible. True, it probably has something to do with his talents (you'd be an over-achiever, too, if your name was Newt). And it probably has something to do with tapping into the mood of a just plain irked nation. Hey, why can't anyone figure out what's wrong—? Hey, why can't anyone fix it—?

But PBS was right there with the other panel shows, ushering in the "don't talk while I'm interrupting!" shout fests that have now replaced TV analysis from Washington, D.C. insiders.

Is it politics, journalism or show business—? You be the judge. The players move back and forth freely—Pat Buchanan leaves "Crossfire" to run for president, David Gergen leaves "The MacNeil-Leher Report" to try to straighten out the Clinton White House, Mary Matalin and James Carville run opposing presidential campaigns, then go on to live out their own Kathryn Hepburn-Spencer Tracy movie.

When Al Gore debated Ross Perot on the merits of NAFTA, they did it with all the maturity of a couple of second graders, fingers in ears, taunting. "I'm rubber, you're glue . . ."

In this climate, he with the longest wind wins, and the spoils go to the most bellicose. Rush rules the roost . . . but you can bet Newt can't wait to get into the act.

Before he does, I'd like to offer a few words in praise of Hawaii Public Radio.

NPR, or PRI, or whatever it calls itself to try to stay out of Jesse Helms' direct line of sight, is where the dial of my car radio is most of the time. I quote it regularly. I bore friends with stories of whatever obscure character has shown up as an interview subject that day.

KKUA is a magic link, from the two lane roads criss-crossing this island to . . . Everywhere Else. Just mentioning names of NPR voices—Bob Edwards, Cokie Roberts, Baxter Black, Click and Clack, Andre Codrescu, Bailey White, Daniel Shore, Noah Adams, Garrison Keillor, Sylvia Pajoli, Neil Conan, Cory Flintoff, Nina Totenberg, even Frank Deford, when he's not getting to carried away with the sound of his own voice—is enough to draw smiles from those of us who share the habit. When I get together with friends from the Mainland, we discover NPR is something we all have in common. It's the tom-tom beat for the global village. Not to mention, the place to listen to classical music.